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BOROUGH OF CLITHEROE.



A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F

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A N D

E. COATES, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING

31ST. DECEMBER, 1951.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
(Part-time)

J.H.FAIRWEATHER, M.D., M.R.C.P.,
D.P.H.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.
FOOD INSPECTOR.
SHOPS INSPECTOR.
CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

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ADDITIONAL SANITARY
INSPECTOR.
DEPUTY FOOD INSPECTOR.

M. C. DAWSON, C.S.I.B.

CLERICAL OFFICER.

N. CLEGG.

P A R T I.

- (A) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

- (B) GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

- (C) PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

BY

J. H. FAIRWEATHER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

A. SUMMARY OF STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of Borough (in acres).....	2,386
POPULATION - PRELIMINARY CENSUS, 1951	12,057
ESTIMATED POPULATION - MID 1951.....	12,010
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census 1931.....	3,215
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1951.....	4,005
Rateable Value	£74,110
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£ 297

The principal Industries carried on in the area are Cotton and Rayon Weaving, Cotton Bleaching, Cement Manufacture, Chemical Manufacture, Limestone Quarrying, Agricultural Engineering and Garment Manufacture.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births.	Legitimate...	75	76 151
	Illegitimate.	5	3 8
	Total....	80	79 159
Stillbirths.	Legitimate...	3	4 7
	Illegitimate.	-	- -
	Total....	3	4 7

Deaths..... 86 98 184

Infantile Mortality. (Infants under 1 year).	Legitimate...	4	1	5
	Illegitimate.	1	-	1
	Total....	5	1	6

Maternal Mortality.	Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, etc. 1.
	MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.	... 6.02 ..

BIRTHS.

The number of LIVE BIRTHS registered during the year was 159, giving an adjusted BIRTH RATE of 14.4 per 1,000 population.

The trend of this Rate over the past ten years, in comparison with the rate for England and Wales, is shown in the following Table :-

Year.	Clitheroe.				England & Wales.	
	No. of Births.			Rate per 1,000		
	M.	F.	Total			
1942	88	86	174	15.3	14.0	
1943	92	91	183	16.6	16.5	
1944	110	98	208	18.8	17.6	
1945	74	75	149	13.8	16.1	
1946	87	91	178	16.2	19.1	
1947	124	116	240	21.9	20.5	
1948	108	103	211	17.7	17.9	
1949	115	113	228	18.6	16.7	
1950	121	113	234	20.4	15.8	
1951	80	79	159	14.4	15.5	

STILLBIRTHS.

The Table given below sets out details relating to Still-births for the past ten years :-

Year	Number Of Stillbirths.			Rate per 1000 (live & still) Births.	Rate per 1000 population	
	L.	Ill.	Total		Clitheroe.	England and Wales.
1942	7	-	7	38	0.62	0.54
1943	11	-	11	56	0.99	0.51
1944	5	-	5	23	0.63	0.50
1945	3	-	3	19	0.28	0.46
1946	6	3	9	48	0.82	0.53
1947	6	-	6	24	0.55	0.50
1948	10	-	10	45	0.84	0.42
1949	2	-	2	9	0.16	0.39
1950	8	-	8	33	0.64	0.37
1951	7	-	7	42	0.58	0.36

DEATHS.

The number of Deaths of Clitheroe residents which occurred during the year was 184, representing an adjusted DEATH RATE of 13.0 per 1,000 of the population.

The Death Rate for the Borough for the past ten years is shown below in comparison with the rate for England and Wales :-

Year.	Clitheroe.		England & Wales. Rate per 1,000
	Total Deaths	Rate per 1,000	
1942	145	12.7	13.9
1943	167	15.1	12.1
1944	145	13.1	11.6
1945	167	15.4	11.4
1946	159	14.5	11.5
1947	156	14.2	12.0
1948	179	15.0	10.8
1949	180	14.7	11.7
1950	183	12.6	11.6
1951	184	13.0	12.5

The following Table gives the INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE, per 1,000 live births, for the past ten years, compared with the rates for England and Wales and the Smaller Towns in the Country :-

Year.	Clitheroe.	England and Wales	Smaller Towns 20,000 - 50,000
1942	28	49	46
1943	43	49	46
1944	28	46	44
1945	46	46	43
1946	16	43	37
1947	25	41	36
1948	37	34	32
1949	35	32	30
1950	21	29.8	29.4
1951	38	29.6	27.6

Average 1942- 1951 - Clitheroe 31.1 Smaller Towns 37.1

OTHER INFANT DEATHS.	Total Rate per 1000 population.	
	Deaths from Measles(all ages)...	Nil. -
	Deaths from Wh. Cough(all ages).	Nil -
	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)...	1 0.08

The following Table shows the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Clitheroe residents during 1951 :-

Cause of Death	M.	F.	Total
All Causes - Certified.....	86	98	184
Uncertified.....	-	-	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	1	1	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases.....	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Influenza.....	5	6	11
Cancer (all forms).....	12	14	26
Diabetes.....	1	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.....	7	18	25
Heart Disease.....	33	33	66
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System..	3	4	7
Pneumonia.....	2	4	6
Bronchitis.....	5	4	9
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.....	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.....	-	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and Diarrhoea.....	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis.....	-	2	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.....	-	1	1
Congenital Malformations.....	2	-	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	-	-	-
All Other Accidents.....	-	2	2
Suicide.....	2	-	2
Homicide and Operations of War.....	1	-	1
All Other Causes.....	11	7	18
 Totals.....	86	98	184

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

A comprehensive range of Services is maintained by the Local Health Authority, the Lancashire County Council, including Ante-Natal Clinic (With classes for Exercises and Relaxation), Child Welfare Clinic, Eye and Aural Clinic, and other School Medical Services - Medical and Dental.

The AMBULANCE SERVICE is also provided by the Lancashire County Council, the Station being situate in Princess Avenue.

GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES are provided by the Regional Hospital Board in Blackburn, Accrington, Preston and Burnley. There is also access, where required, to Manchester, Liverpool and other Hospitals.

Provision is made for MATERNITY CASES at Preston Royal Infirmary, Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn, and Bramley Meade, Whalley, and for INFECTIOUS DISEASES at Park Lee Hospital, Blackburn.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Pathological and Bacteriological Departments of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary undertake the Public Health Laboratory work for the Borough in accordance with the Government Scheme officially carried out by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board. This Laboratory is also used by the General Practitioners of the town.

There is also a Pathological Clinic in the town, weekly, through an arrangement made by the Trustees of the Clitheroe Nursing Association.

C. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, is shown in the following Table, which includes particulars of cases notified, cases removed to hospital, and deaths from these diseases. Cases of the non-notifiable minor infectious diseases are not included.

Notifiable Diseases.	Cases notified.						Total Deaths.	Cases removed to Hospital.		
	Age periods-years.									
	0-1	1-5	5-10	10-25	25-65	65 & over.				
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Scarlet Fever...	-	7	19	10	-	-	-	1		
Typhoid Fever...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Paratyphoid F...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1		
Measles.....	2	35	23	-	-	-	-	-		
Whooping Cough..	16	63	47	1	-	-	-	-		
Ac.Pneumonia....	-	-	-	1	6	4	6	-		
Puerperal Pyrexia....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Poliomyelitis-paralytic.....	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2		
non-paralytic.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1		
Encephalitis....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Dysentery.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Erysipelas.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-		
Malaria.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Food Poisoning..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Totals.....	18	106	91	12	8	4	6	5		

It will be seen from the foregoing Table that 239 cases of notifiable disease were reported during the year, a decrease of five cases on the previous year. Of this total, 127 notifications were in respect of WHOOPING COUGH (as against 32 in 1950), 60 in respect of MEASLES (197 in 1950), and 36 for SCARLET FEVER (an increase of 28 on the figure for 1950). Fortunately, the Measles and Whooping Cough epidemics were fairly mild and there were no deaths. The Whooping Cough outbreak, however, was more extensive than for some years. There is some hope that a suitable and effective vaccine against Whooping Cough will later become available.

There was an extensive outbreak of INFLUENZA in February but for the most part the duration of the illness was short. There were, however, 11 deaths notified as due to Influenza during the year.

Two cases of Paralytic and one of Non-Paralytic POLIOMYELITIS were reported during 1951, and were removed to hospital. The non-paralytic case made complete recovery, whilst the remaining cases made partial recovery and were still undergoing treatment at the end of the year.

One case of PARATYPOID, the origin of which was most obscure, was notified during the year. As this case occurred in a food shop the patient was immediately removed to hospital and the strictest precautions taken to prevent the spread of infection. Such precautions proved effective and no further cases were reported.

It is pleasing to report that again no cases of DIPHTHERIA occurred in the Borough area during the year. Preventive inoculations against this disease are now established as a routine measure and have proved effective as no case of Diphtheria has been reported since 1946.

The following Table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Disease during the past five years :-

Disease.	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951.
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	5	15	24	8	36
Measles.....	169	203	89	197	60
Whooping Cough.....	58	37	19	32	127
Typhoid Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever.....	-	-	-	-	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis - paralytic...	-	-	1	1	2
- do - non-paralytic....	1	-	-	2	1
Acute encephalitis.....	-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas.....	2	2	4	2	1
Pneumonia.....	3	4	10	1	11
Dysentery.....	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	-	1	-	-	-
Malaria - all forms.....	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.....	-	-	49	-	-
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary.....	8	3	7	7	15
- do - Non-pulmonary....	7	1	6	-	6
 Totals.....	253	266	210	250	260

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases of Tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board which administers the general Scheme. Close liaison is maintained between the Board and the local Public Health Department.

All necessary disinfections following these cases are carried out by our own Department.

The following Table Shows the age group incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis notified, and the deaths from the disease, in 1951.

Age Periods. Yrs.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resptr.		Respiratory		Non-Resptr.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45-	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
55-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
65-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	11	4	3	3	1	2	1	nil
	15		6					

It will be seen that 15 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified during the year. This is an increase of 8 cases over the previous year and an increase of 9 on the average figure for the ten years 1941 to 1950. It is significant that 6 of these respiratory cases were reported after the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit in September.

The Table below gives the Death Rates from Respiratory Tuberculosis in the Borough and the Administrative County of Lancashire for the years 1941 to 1950 and, for the purpose of comparison, the Rate for England and Wales :-

Year	Death Rate per 1,000 of population		
	Clitheroe.	Lancashire.	England & Wales.
1941	0.17	0.43	0.60
1942	0.09	0.41	0.54
1943	0.18	0.41	0.56
1944	0.45	0.42	0.52
1945	0.46	0.38	0.52
1946	0.37	0.39	0.47
1947	0.18	0.38	0.47
1948	0.25	0.34	0.44
1949	0.16	0.34	0.40
1950	0.16	0.28	0.32
Aver- age of 10 Yrs.	0.25	0.38	0.48

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Unit of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board visited the town in September 1951. There was a splendid response from the General Public and Industrial Firms, and an unusually large number of the population took advantage of the service. The Secretary of the Unit cannot issue a final report until a year or so after the visit but the following figures can be given :-

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Miniature Examinations.....	2,771	3,103	5,874
Number of Persons recalled for large Film....	110	87	197
Number of Persons recalled for Interview.....	41	33	74

The survey by the Unit included part of the Clitheroe Rural District.

HEALTH EXHIBITION.

A Health Exhibition, arranged in conjunction with the Clitheroe and Bowland Rural District Councils, was held from the 10th. to the 17th. March, 1951. Considerable assistance was given by the Health Education Department of the Lancashire County Council, the No.5 Divisional Health Executive, the Tuberculosis Section of the Manchester Regional Hospitals Board, and the North Western Electricity Board. The Council of Information showed Health Films during the afternoon and evenings sessions for the General Public and during each morning session for the School children. The erection of the Stalls and the provision of an additional film unit was undertaken by the Rodent Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The various sections of the Health Service were represented as follows :-

<u>Section.</u>	<u>Provided by</u>
Maternity and Child Welfare.	Officials of No.5 Health Executive.
Tuberculosis.....	Manchester regional Hospitals Board.
Mental Health- Occupational Therapy....	Calderstone Institution.
Diphtheria Immunisation....	Lancashire County Council.
Food Analysis.....	do. do.
Clean Food Preparation.....	Marks and Spencer, Ltd.
Hygienic Manufacture of Ice Cream...	J. Lyons & Co., Ltd.
Water Supply.....	Lancashire County Council, and Borough Engineer, Clitheroe.
Sanitary Services.....	Officers of the local Health Departments
Accidents in the Home.....	Lancashire County Council.
Modern Dairying Equipment,etc.	North Western Electricity Board.

The Exhibition was opened by Professor Sir Harry Platt and was well supported by the General Public. It is estimated that 5,000 people attended, including 1,500 school children who were taken round in organised parties at the morning sessions and were shown Health Films. The children, who were given demonstrations at each stall, later gave written answers to a Questionnaire and prizes were given for the best results.

HEALTH FILMS - SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS.

Thanks to the co-operation of the Head Teachers, Health Films were shown in most of the schools at the end of the summer term.

In conjunction with the Divisional Health Executive, the Secretaries of the various organisations which meet regularly in the winter months were circularised and offered a selection of various Films. A number of these organisations took advantage of this offer.

P A R T II.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.

1. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(INCLUDING REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL)

2. HOUSING.

3. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

BY

E. COATES, C.S.I.B., A.R.San.I.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

AND

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

1. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

This is from neighbouring upland sources and is of a high degree of purity and adequate at the source. The storage capacity of the existing reservoirs, however, is not considered sufficient, and during spells of dry weather this lack of storage gives rise to anxiety and calls for the strictest economy in the use of water.

The Local Authority has in hand a Scheme to augment and improve the present supply by the sinking of boreholes to tap a subterranean reservoir, the installation of booster plant and the provision of chlorination facilities on the present Works but, unfortunately, the present economic restrictions do not permit the commencement of this work. Every effort will be made, however, to expedite the Scheme and thus ensure an adequate and safe supply of water in all seasons.

All houses in the Borough are supplied from Public Mains direct, with one exception, this an old house on the extreme north boundary of the town, which is supplied from a well.

WATER SAMPLING.

During the year, 50 Bacteriological Examinations and one Chemical Analysis were made with satisfactory results generally.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

There have been no important changes during the year under review.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

There are in the Borough some 15 Pail Closets, 1,340 Waste-water or "Tipper" Closets, 3 Trough Closets, and 2,950 Freshwater Closets.

Six waste-water closets were converted to the freshwater system during the year.

The conversion of the remaining pail closets and the large number of obsolete and insanitary waste-water closets was contemplated for the immediate post-war period, but the acute shortage of labour and materials has rendered such a comprehensive scheme impossible up to the present time.

Following representations to the owners, modern sanitary accommodation was installed at a local Inn during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No special action was called for during the year in respect of pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

The following is a summary of the work done in the removal of House and Shop Refuse, etc., (excluding salvage loads) during the year ending 31st. December, 1951 :-

1. House and Shop Refuse removed to the Destructor.....	2,809	loads.
2. Offal removed from the Government Slaughterhouse.....	176	loads
3. Fish and Vegetable Offal removed from Trade		
	Premises and Market....	264 loads
4. Nightsoil from Pail Closets.....		32 loads
	Total	<u>3,301</u> loads

The total weight of House and Shop Refuse (2,809 loads) amounted to 3,260 tons 8cwt. 3qrs.

There are some 4,476 dustbins in the area and a Weekly Collection of House Refuse is aimed at but, unfortunately, cannot be maintained at all times. The adoption of shorter hours and increased holidays, absences due to sickness, and building extensions with longer carrying distances in the modern property, are factors which render the maintenance of a weekly collection most difficult in these days of increasing costs when the employment of additional personnel and rolling stock is almost prohibitive. A regular and efficient refuse collection service is an important and desirable Public Health Service but there must be a definite limit of expenditure in towns like Clitheroe where the product of a Penny Rate is quite low. There can be no spare rolling stock, etc. to meet the sometime increased output or emergency such as one sees in the larger town or city.

Despite the factors mentioned above, a collecting period of from 7 to 10 days has been maintained throughout the greater part of the year and the very small number of complaints received is indicative of the fact that householders generally have been reasonably satisfied with the service.

The collection of Waste Paper and other Salvage materials proved very satisfactory during the year under review and showed considerable increase in amounts with consequent higher revenue from sales.

The salvage of waste materials greatly assists the National Economy and, at the same time, makes a substantial contribution to local Rates and is a matter of considerable importance, therefore, not only to the Local Authority Department, but to every householder and trader in the town.

An Incentive Bonus Scheme for workmen for waste paper collection was adopted late in the year and by this means it is hoped to still further increase collections in the future.

Kitchen Waste, which is sent for processing and proves a very valuable foodstuff for pigs, is collected from communal bins three times weekly in summer and twice weekly at other times. Special attention is given to the regular changing, cleansing, spraying and painting of these bins so as to obviate nuisance therefrom.

SALVAGE.

The following Table shows the total weight of salvage disposed of, and the income derived therefrom, during the Year ended 31st. December, 1951 :-

Material.	Amount				Revenue			
	T.	C.	QR.	LBS.	£	:	s.	d.
Waste Paper.....	82.	18.	2.	0.	1,138	:	15	4
Textiles.....			16.	0. 16.	6	:	17	3
Ferrous Metal.....	3.	12.	2.	0.	3	:	12	6
Non-ferrous Metal.....			9.	1. 13.	6	:	8	3
Destructor Tins (baled) ..	30.	2.	2.	0.	63	:	8	11
Kitchen Waste.....	173.	3.	1.	0.	503	:	14	8
 Totals.....	291.	2.	1.	1.	1,722	:	16	11

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Number of Premises visited.....	2,953
Number of Nuisances discovered.....	284
Number of Nuisances abated.....	279
No. of House Inspections under Housing Acts.....	144
Number of Re-inspections.....	65
Number of Other House Inspections.....	106
Number of Bakehouse Inspections.....	63
Number of Factory Inspections.....	166
Number of Visits to Government Slaughterhouse.....	615
Number of Visits to Food Shops and Stalls.....	265
Number of Visits to Dairies.....	24
Number of Visits to Ice Cream Shops.....	45
Number of Visits under Shops Acts.....	36
Number of Visits to Infected Houses.....	45
Number of Visits re Works in Progress.....	21
Miscellaneous Visits re Complaints, etc.....	704
Number of Houses disinfected.....	27
Number of Houses disinfested.....	3
Informal Notices served.....	242
Statutory Notices served.....	2

MOVABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES.

Action was taken in one case where a family was found to be occupying a movable dwelling (converted bus). Following interview and the issue of informal notice this practice was discontinued.

SHOPS.

Routine inspection and special inspection as occasion required continued during the year.

One notice was issued requiring the provision of a hot water supply and the conversion of obsolete sanitary accommodation.

It was found necessary to caution two traders in regard to Closing Hours and Sunday Closing for non-exempted shops.

FACTORIES.

There are at present 14 Non-Power and 129 Power Factories, a total of 143 premises, on the Register and coming within the purview of the Factories Acts.

Routine inspection was carried out during the year and the standard generally was found to be satisfactory.

In three cases attention was drawn to unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary accommodation at one school in particular is in need of urgent attention. The obsolete latrine closets, etc., have ceased to function efficiently and give rise to serious nuisance.

It is understood that the appropriate Authorities, following representation, are actively considering the provision of new and up-to-date sanitary accommodation and washing facilities at the school.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no Offensive Trades established in the Borough area.

DISINFESTATION.

During 1951, three houses were found to be infested with vermin and action was taken for their disinfection.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

No special action was taken in regard to smoke abatement but considerable attention was again given to the problem of atmospheric pollution by fumes and dust emitted from a Cement Works, a Chemical Works, and a Quarry Stone-crushing Plant, all situate within the Borough area.

The Firms concerned have been most co-operative and have expended a considerable amount of capital in their endeavours to take the "best practicable means" to minimise nuisance, and conditions generally have been improved.

H.M. Inspector of Alkali, etc., Works (Mr. Tiplady) has again been in fairly regular contact with the Department's Officials and has been most helpful in these matters.

Attention was also given to the problem of air-borne dust from vehicles in passage through the town from the local Quarries and other Works. The Works owners and contractors were asked to co-operate and minimise this nuisance as far as possible by ensuring that the vehicles were provided with effective covers.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Two sets of premises were registered in accordance with this act in November, 1951. No samples were taken before the end of the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council employs one full-time Operator to carry out this work of disinfection, under the direction of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The town is divided into eight sections for this work and regular tours of inspection of premises and land within these sections are carried out by the Operator, complete records being kept of all infestations found and treatments carried out.

One test-baiting and two maintenance treatments of the town's sewers were carried out during the year.

Three refuse tips and several farms were also treated at intervals on behalf of the Bowland Rural District Council.

The work of Rodent Control has been maintained now for almost eight years and it is evident that the degree of infestation in the town, especially in regard to the public sewers, has been reduced to a very much lower level, and it is expected that this will be maintained, or still further reduced, in the future.

Householders and occupiers of premises now appreciate the importance of the destruction of rats and mice and co-operate well by giving prompt notice of infestations to the Public Health Department.

In accordance with the provisions of the Damage by Pests Act, 1949, a Report on Rodent Control work for the Year ended 31st December, 1951, was furnished to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The following Table gives a summary of the work done during the year under review :-

Number of inspections of Premises.	Number of premises found infested.	Number of treatments carried out.	Estimated kill of Rats.	Cumulative total of rats killed since inception of service.
1,318	61	66	1,856 (Actual bodies 409)	9,956 (Actual bodies recovered 2,498)

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

1. The provision of more new Housing Accommodation.
2. The abolition of sub-standard housing accommodation and the reconditioning of other properties.
3. The conversion to the freshwater system of the few remaining Pail closets and the large number of Waste-water closets.
4. The re-organising of the Public Abattoir to bring nearer to modern standards.
(A Scheme of Improvement is in hand and the necessary works should be completed in 1952).
5. The provision of more Public Conveniences, one of which should be centrally situated and equipped with full modern facilities for washing, etc.

(The suggestion has been made that this latter might be sited in close proximity to the proposed Bus Station in Railway Road.).

2. H O U S I N G .

The general standard of Housing in the Borough is fairly good but there are several areas of sub-standard property and some 200 single and back-to-back houses which call for action under the Housing Acts at a later date. No major schemes of demolition or improvement of sanitary conditions were undertaken during the year under review. Efforts have been made to speed up minor repair works following approach to owners but this work is still difficult as materials are still in short supply and are urgently needed for new housing programmes. Delay, somewhat lengthy at times, has again been experienced following the issue of orders to Contractors to carry out repair works.

Action was taken during the year for the demolition of a small block of property comprising two dwellings numbered 3 and 5, Marlborough Street, Clitheroe. Following the appearance before the Council of the owner's legal representative, who agreed that these houses could not at reasonable expense be rendered fit, an Undertaking from the owner that he would discontinue the use of this property for human habitation was accepted.

The Waiting List for new houses is still a lengthy one and it is evident that new building programmes must continue for some years. The Council, being fully aware of the problem, is planning its programmes well ahead.

During the year 1951, 25 permanent traditional houses were completed by the Borough Council, 10 by other Authorities, and 6 by private persons, a total of 41 houses. A further 37 houses were in course of erection at the end of the year.

Work is to continue on the Hayhurst Street sites and new building will commence on two sites at Low Moor during the coming year.

There is undoubtedly some Overcrowding in the area but no reliable statistics can be given at the present time. In several instances during 1951 families have moved to larger houses thus relieving these known cases.

No Schemes of "Improvement" have been undertaken during 1951 by the Local Authority or by other persons under Part II of the Housing Act, 1949.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of houses erected during the year.....	41
Number in course of erection at the end of the year.....	37
Number of Houses inspected for housing defects.....	94
Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation..	7
Number of other houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation...	46
Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by L.A. or their Officers.....	35
Number of houses against which statutory action was taken with a view to closure as dwellings.....	2
Number of cases of Overcrowding relieved during the year.	3
Number of Schemes submitted under Housing Act, 1949.....	Nil

3. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The responsibility for the inspection of farm cowsheds, etc., on the 25 Dairy Farms in the Borough rests on the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Local Authority being Responsible for milk distribution and the supervision of dairymen only. It would still appear desirable that the control of the milk supply in all its stages should be in the hands of one Authority only, and that, the Local Authority. Since the transfer of functions and the introduction of more remote control in 1949, frequent inspection of many farms has not been maintained nor has there been that close contact with the milk producer which experience proves most desirable.

Three sets of premises are registered by Dairymen in the Borough. Inspection of these premises has proved them to be satisfactorily maintained during 1951.

Five Dealers' Licences for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested" milk were issued during the year.

Six samples of milk were forwarded to the Laboratory at Blackburn Royal Infirmary for biological tests for Tuberculosis and all gave negative results. Six samples were submitted for the Methylene Blue Reduction Test (for keeping quality) and five of these were considered satisfactory. Of the further five samples examined for the presence of B.Coli. four were found to be satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The Public Abattoir is still used as a Government Centre for the slaughtering and distribution of meat in the area comprising the Borough and the Clitheroe and Bowland Rural Districts, and this centralisation has greatly facilitated the work of inspection.

During the year new electrically driven winches were installed in the abattoir, and electric carcass saws are to be installed in the near future.

The Scheme of reconditioning and improvement of the Abattoir buildings has now been approved and work is to be commenced at an early date. The completion of these works will result in the improved handling and storage of carcasses and will provide better inspection facilities.

The following shows the amount of Food condemned and removed from the Food Supply during the Year ended 31st. December, 1951 :-

BEEF

31 Carcasses.....	14,053 lbs.	152 Heads & Tongues.....	3,786 lbs.
15 Forequarters...	1,617 lbs.	62 Skirts.....	112 lbs.
2 Hindquarters...	250 lbs.	46 Hearts.....	166 lbs.
2 Sides.....	437 lbs.	34 Tails.....	69 lbs.
Carcass parts.....	891 lbs	413 Lites & 93 Melts....	3,754 lbs.
Liver Trimmings...	7,352 lbs.	4 Tripes.....	100 lbs.
Udder.....	710 lbs.	Frozen Beef.....	90 lbs.
Beef Fat.....	1,675 lbs.		
Bruised Meat.....	429 lbs.		

MUTTON.

21 Carcasses.....	566 lbs.	5 Carcasses.....	810 lbs.
Carcass parts.....	105 lbs.	Carcass parts.....	13 lbs.
23 Heads & Plucks.	130 lbs.	17 Heads.....	196 lbs.
14 Plucks.....	48 lbs.	28 Plucks.....	155 lbs.
237 Livers.....	404 lbs.	2 Livers.....	5 lbs.
7 Heads.....	31 lbs.	Pork Fat.....	4 lbs.

VEAL

28 Carcasses.....	806 lbs.	Raw Ham.....	18 lbs.
Carcass parts.....	14 lbs.	Canned Boiled Ham.....	538 lbs.
28 Heads & Plucks.	208 lbs.	Canned Beef.....	92 lbs.
Canned Veal.....	30 lbs.	Canned Chicken.....	4 lbs.
		Luncheon Meat.....	146 tins.

OTHER FOODS.

Butter...	24lbs.	Almonds...	57lbs.	Canned Milk...	55 tins.
Canned Fish...	36 tins	Canned Soup...	97 tins	Canned fruit	321tins
Canned Vegetables...	93 tins.	Mixed Foods..	100 pkts.or jars.		
		Jam..	7 jars.		

Further particulars as to inspection and condemnation of meat carcasses are shown in the Table on Page 19.

The importance of the hygienic handling of Food has again been stressed during the year. Routine inspections and special inspections when called for were carried out in respect of Food Shops, Stalls, and Food Preparing Premises generally, where high standards of cleanliness are vital. The importance of Clean Food was also stressed at the Health Exhibition in the early part of the year.

Copies of the Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, are supplied to all food shops,etc.

Display Notices signed by the Medical Officer of Health requesting customers not to bring Dogs into Food Shops were distributed to local traders. The adoption of this practice is a practical step to a higher standard of food hygiene, and it now appears to have been generally welcomed by the shopkeepers concerned.

MEAT CARSASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed.....	1,438	292	4,136	222
Number Inspected.....	1,438	292	4,136	222
<u>All diseases except</u> Tuberculosis :-				
Whole carcases condemned.....	9	28	21	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	591	4	258	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	42%	11%	7%	6%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> :-				
Whole carcases condemned.....	22	1	Nil	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	440	Nil	Nil	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.....	32%	34%	Nil	15%

